Notice of Proposed Action

by the

State of Nevada

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for the renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Toiyabe Mine**, a mining facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Permit NEV0060050 is:

Cortez Gold Mines HC66 P.O. Box 1250 Crescent Valley, Nevada 89821-1250

The facility, known as the Toiyabe Mine, is located in Township 25 North, Range 47 East, Section 18, and Township 25 North, Range 46 East, Section 13. This project is currently in closure and the plans are to permanently close the facility. The mine components consist of three open pits, two waste rock dumps, two leach pads, a barren pond, an evapotranspiration basin (converted pregnant pond), and a subsurface infiltration field. Long-term discharge of spent process solution to the environment is being proposed.

The Administrator is constrained to issue a renewed water pollution control permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative determination to issue the renewed permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation in the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their comments, objections, or requests no later than 30 days following the date of publication of this notice (5:00 pm, 24 October 2002) to:

Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation Capitol Complex Attn: Karl McCrea 333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138 Carson City, NV 89706-0851 All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The permit and all application documents subsequent thereto are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Karl McCrea at (775) 687-9407 or toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at http://ndep.state.nv.us/bmrr/bmrr01.html.